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# THE MORNING NEWS

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## Tourist Visitors Extension

ORANJESTAD -- Everyday people arrive on Aruba as visitors from different countries. They come here to enjoy a vacation at a hotel, condominium or to enjoy the home they bought here to get away from the winter.

There are also those who come to stay with friends on Aruba. Sometimes friends invite them to come and spend time with them for their vacation.

So, they stay at a friend's residence during their time on the island.

The number of vacation days that visitors get to stay on the island depends on various factors. In general, however,

the Immigration allows for a 30 day tourism stay at entrance. In the event the person has the Dutch nationality, or is here to enjoy their own residence on the island (a home, timeshare or condominium) and they can prove this, the Immigration is authorized to give them a maximum of 180 days per year providing of course they comply with all the requirements.

The average tourist stay is one week. Persons who have received a stay-over period for 30 days, but who desires to stay longer, must go to DIMAS and file a formal application for an extension.

Most of the petitions for visitor extensions are for those staying with family or friends. In this case, it is the family member who is responsible for the person. The family is the guarantor for any eventual expenses that may occur during the visitor's stay on the island.

The family member is required to submit a letter of guarantee, legalized by DWJZ, along with other requirements.

Soon DIMAS will be issuing a communiqué concerning the changes in the procedures regarding guarantees when requesting an extension for longer visitor-stays on the island and for applying for a visa to travel to Aruba.

To submit a petition for the visitor extension, there is no need for an appointment. The request for a visitor extension is a free service at DIMAS and a "same day service" as well. This can be requested at the DIMAS' Fast Desk.

The person must present with all the required documents for the extension request. They must present the Form for the Visitor's Extension Request and the letter of guarantee. These forms are available on their website at [www.dimasaruba.com](http://www.dimasaruba.com).

No visitor is allowed to work during their stay on the island as a visitor.

DIMAS is open Monday to Friday for the prolongation of visitor's stays.

Only the Embassy of the Dutch Kingdom can issue visas which may be valid for 6 months for multiple entries or for 4 years with multiple entries.

Other services of the DIMAS' Fast desk are: petitions for the restitution of monies deposited, making appointments for those without internet connections, submitting petitions for re-entry permits, and for requests for duplicate documents. DIMAS will disseminate more information on their services in forthcoming communiques.

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## CAMARADA- Aruba to commemorate fallen soldiers of World War II



ORANJESTAD -- Like previous years, today, May 4th, the Dutch Kingdom will commemorate the Fallen Soldiers during World War II.

Nowadays, even those who have fallen while employed by the government in military conflicts (Indonesia) and / or peacekeeping operations (Lebanon, Bosnia and Afghanistan), are commemorated.

This year, from 5:30 to 16:30, Camarada-Aruba will again organize a commemorative ceremony. Camarada is

diligently working with the Marines of Savaneta Camp. A total of 67 young people were also invited to lay flowers.

Camarada has also asked authorities to keep a silent march and radio and television stations to – as of 6:00 p.m. – hold 2 minutes of silence.

Camarada-Aruba invites families of fallen soldiers, archers, ex-servicemen and the community in general to join this commemoration ceremony and to lay flowers during the defile.

## A Piece of History as reflected by Minister Plenipotentiary

May 5th is considered Liberation Day and Minister Plenipotentiary of Aruba in the Hague called attention to this and reflected on what he called a "Piece of forgotten History."

He referred to Aruban, Boy Ecury. Ecury was an Aruban student who was very active in the Dutch Resistance movement during the Second World War. He paid a high price for his courage, namely, his very life. Boy Ecury was deceived by the Germans and betrayed. No one would have blamed him if, at the start of the war he had returned home to be with his family in Aruba. In the prime of his youth he went to Holland to study and prepare himself to return to Aruba for a career that awaited him.

Instead, Boy did not hesitate to join the Dutch Resistance and was willing to sacrifice his life for Holland, which wasn't even his native country, according to Minister Abath.

The Minister invited students in Holland to participate in the placing of a wreath at the monument at Waalsdorpervlakte at Scheveningen, close to the place where Boy Ecury was killed on November 6, 1944. The so-called "Silent March" will take place today May 4th at Oude Waalsdorpweg with a solemn march to the monument dedicated to those who gave their lives in the War.

According to Minister Abath, it is important to make a connection between Boy Ecury and the generation of youth of today. Today's youth are growing up without much regard for tolerance and solidarity. We must find ways to curb this tendency, according to Abath. And, we can attempt this by sharing with young people who Boy Ecury was and by focusing on his example. He indicated that they would like to prepare a package of classroom lessons on



this matter for our schools.

It would be wise for students both in Aruba and in Holland get to know Boy Ecury better and to begin thinking about what the Dutch Kingdom means to all of us.

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## May Day is Play Day for Arubans with the Royal Dutch Marines

It has become a tradition for nearly ten years for one of the major holidays observed on the island, International Labor Day, May 1, to be a day when Arubans bring the family and interact with those stationed at the Royal Dutch Marine Camp in Savaneta.

The Marines open their doors for one day and literally turn the camp into a giant theme park, with rides on land, sea and air; activities that stimulate young minds and encourage healthy bodies, and one of the largest and most diverse flea markets on the island, where bargain hunters come to buy anything from sunglasses



All Aboard for a tour of the camp



Boat rides on the coast guard cutters



Eco logic foundation teaches about saving

to a car. There are food and refreshment booths, and local radio station Cool.fm welcomes island celebrities who will announce the winners of the fundraising raffle conducted throughout the day.

All proceeds earned over the day,

for the rent the booths and food and drink vendors as well as the raffle, is earmarked for a worthwhile foundation; in the past it has benefited old age homes, the mentally and physically challenged and Casa Cuna Progresso, a shelter for youngsters from troubled homes. The marines not only donate the funds for what these various organizations need, but often the labor to help construct the additional facility or equipment.

Continued on page 4



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## YMCA to organize an Excellent Seminar on ‘Positivity & Abundance’



SAN NICOLAS -- “Stress Free Mind, Disease Free Body, Inhibition Free Intellect, Trauma Free Memory and a Sorrow Free Soul – is a birth right of every human being”.

After the success of ‘Health & Happiness Seminar’ from the same teacher, YMCA is going to organize another seminar from Mr. Dushyant Savadia, International teacher from the Art of Living Foundation. Mr. Dushyant is settled in U.K. and is currently travelling across the Caribbean. He has been teaching Art of Living

courses for the last 11 years. He started the activities of the Foundation here in Aruba in November 2011 and has held Art of Breathing courses in Aruba for all age groups including children, youth and adults. Mr. Dushyant was once addicted to alcohol and smoking with a very angry personality and was transformed completely through these courses and has since dedicated his life to the Foundation to bring this knowledge to people across the world.

As a larger contribution to the Caribbean Islands, Art of Living is also offering diverse workshops for society in general and for special groups like prisoners, drug addicts etc. The Art of Living programs have already benefited more than 300 million people across the world from all walks of life.

“An inner transformation to last a lifetime.” Existence is a Fact - Living is an Art

### Art of Living Foundation:

Founded in 1981 by Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, The Art of Living Foundation is an educational and humanitarian NGO (Non-Governmental Organisation) engaged in stress-management and service initiatives.

*Continued on page 5*

## Palm Beach Casino hosted a fabulous Black Jack Tournament!



1st prize winner Luciano Lupini.



3rd prize winner Aris Krumins



6th prize winner Michelle Buscemi

## May Day is Play Day for Arubans . . .

*Continued from page 3*



Local treats for sale



Kids enjoy the rope swing and obstacle course

May Day is also a day for islanders to get to know those stationed here for their protection, as well as the local staff of the Aruba Militia, or ARUMIL, a division of the Dutch Marines particularly dedicated to the defense of the island. Active in WWII, they were re-established when Aruba attained Status Aparte in 1986.

The camp welcomes thousands of families for this highly anticipated day, which is always exciting and educational.

*by Rosalie Klein*



## Excellent Seminar on 'Positivity...'

*Continued from page 4*

The organisation operates globally in 151 countries. The Art of Living offers stress-elimination programs which include breathing techniques, meditation and yoga. The Foundation has spread peace across communities through diverse humanitarian projects, including conflict resolution, disaster relief, empowerment of women, prisoner rehabilitation, education for all, and environmental sustainability.

The Art of Living Course is offered worldwide and is a practical programme of experience and knowledge designed to develop the full potential of life. The course gives practical experience on all levels of existence: body, breath, mind, intellect, memory, ego and the self. The Breathing Techniques also have been subjected to published international researches claiming physical, mental and emotional benefits. Some of the reported benefits include:

- Reduced Stress
- Enhanced Health and Well Being
- More Joy and Enthusiasm
- Improved Relationships
- Benefit to the Immune System

This powerful seminar on 'Positivity & Abundance' will be organized on Sunday, the 6th May at YMCA, SAN NICOLAS from 400 to 600 p.m. and on Monday, the 7th May at Antraco bookstore in LGS Boulevard from 4 to 6 pm. The participation in the seminar is FREE.

Please register by calling 562 4722, 737 3743 or 741 6490 or by email at [aolaruba@gmail.com](mailto:aolaruba@gmail.com)



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## Muslims upset as Wilders promotes new book

-- According to the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), Geert Wilder's new book is nothing but a repetition of his previous hate campaign against Islam, which is actually abuse of freedom of expression.

A OIC spokesperson expressed dismay at the publication of Wilders' new book, "Marked for Death: Islam's War Against the West and Me." According to the OIC's website, "the new book is nothing

but a repetition of Mr. Wilders campaign of hate mongering against Islam in abusing his right of freedom of expression. Suffice it to say that his activities have been denounced and disavowed by the Dutch Government, Dutch Parliament, the European Parliament as well as the Council of Europe."

Wilders is currently touring the United States in order to promote "Marked for Death." At one of the stops on the tour,

he called on Muslims to abandon Islam. During an interview with right wing TV and radio personality Glen Beck, he said he wanted to see "less Islam," although he was not calling for an outright ban.

At times Beck was critical of Geert Wilders' ideas. Beck said it would be better to have moderate Muslims change Islam from within. In the past, Beck has called Wilders a fascist. The interview with

Beck took place in Dallas, Texas. Beck was once a star of the right wing channel Fox News, but now has his own radio and TV shows on his own pay website.

Wilders also stated that the European Union (EU) is a lost cause and will soon collapse. "Europe is the worst thing that ever happened to us," said Wilders, who, earlier this week, announced that the PVV wants the Netherlands to leave the



EU. "We have lost our national identity," the PVV leader said.

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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Libya funded Sarkozy 2007 campaign: ex-Libya PM's lawyers

TUNIS (AFP) - Moamer Kadhafi's regime funded Nicolas Sarkozy's 2007 poll campaign, lawyers for former Libyan premier Baghdadi al-Mahmudi said yesterday, as the French president dismissed it as a ploy to derail his bid for reelection.

"Moamer Kadhafi, his regime and the officials who worked with him financed Sarkozy's election campaign in 2007," lawyer Bechir Essed told reporters in Tunis, where Mahmudi is detained, mentioning that 50 million euros (\$65 million) changed hands.

Essed's claims came after the French Mediapart website published a document on Saturday which it said showed Libya's financing of Sarkozy's campaign.

Sarkozy again angrily dismissed Mediapart's document as a deliberate forgery timed to destabilise his re-election campaign and is taking legal action against the website.

"The Libyan government said it was a fake, the recipient of the wire transfer said it was fake," Sarkozy told French broadcaster Canal Plus.

"Who could believe such nonsense?" he said, calling the accusations slander.

According to Essed, the deal was concluded by former Libyan intelligence chief

Mussa Kussa on the instructions of Kadhafi and that "documents proving the transaction exist."

Another lawyer for Mahmudi, who is facing two demands for extradition to Tripoli, confirmed the claim, adding that his client believes Sarkozy is behind his detention in Tunisia.

Lawyers for Mediapart urged French prosecutors to demand access to Mahmudi from Tunisian authorities for questioning on the vote funding allegations.

Mahmudi is a "key witness" and risks an unjust trial and "quick summary execution" in Libya, lawyers Jean-Pierre Mignard and Emmanuel Tordjman said, making a call against his extradition to Libya.

A Tunisian court in February cleared Mahmudi of crossing illegally into Tunisia as he fled Libya last year but kept him in prison.

NEW YORK (AFP) - The editors of all 19 editions of Vogue around the world pledged yesterday to use only healthy models no younger than 16 on their editorial pages in an attempt to shift fashion's approach to body image.

UNITED NATIONS (AFP) - UN leader Ban Ki-moon yesterday led international outrage at the growing number of journalist killings, as the bodies of two dead photographers were found in Mexico on World Press Freedom Day.

Ban told a press freedom at the UN headquarters that journalists now face "dire threats" and highlighted that more than 60 were killed in 2011.

Amid international tributes to journalists such as Marie Colvin of the United States and Remi Ochlik of France who were killed in the Syrian protest city of Homs in March, some press freedom groups say this year could see an even worse media death toll.

Mexican security forces yesterday found the dismembered bodies of two missing photographers -- Guillermo Luna Varela and Gabriel Huge -- in a canal in the eastern state of Veracruz, authorities said.

In Somalia, radio reporter Farhan Jeemis Abdulle was shot dead by gunmen on the eve of World Press Freedom Day, police said. Abdulle was

### Vogue slaps worldwide ban on under-16 models

Anna Wintour, editor of Vogue's flagship US edition, and Emmanuelle Alt of Paris Vogue, which touched off a furor in 2010 with a photo spread featuring a 10-year-old girl, are among the editors who agreed to the pact.

"Vogue believes that good health is beautiful," said Jonathan Newhouse, a scion of the New York publishing family.

"Vogue editors around the world want the magazines to reflect their commitment to the health of the models who appear on the pages and the well-being of their readers."

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## Outrage as media death toll mounts on world press day

the fifth Somali journalist gunned down this year.

The UN secretary general said "countless" reporters "face intimidation, harassment and censorship at the hands of governments, corporations and powerful individuals seeking to preserve their power or hide wrongdoings and misdeeds."

"Impunity for those who attack or threaten journalists remains disturbingly prevalent," he added, calling attacks on journalists "outrageous".

Reporters Without Borders said even before the bodies of the Mexican photographers were found, 22 reporters and six bloggers and "citizen journalists" have already been killed since the start of the year.

According to Reporters Without Borders, five journalists have been killed in Somalia this year, four in Syria -- including Colvin and Ochlik -- two each in Bangladesh, Brazil and India, and one in Indonesia, Iraq, Lebanon, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, and Thailand.

Andrei Netto, a correspondent for Brazilian daily O Estado de Sao Paulo who was abducted in Libya last year, said it was important to cover high-profile conflict such as the Arab uprisings, but more focus should be given to helping journalists in countries which call themselves democratic.

"We have to protect journalists in democratic countries

first of all. There are tens of countries which are democratic and do not respect the law as they should do," he said at a UN event on press freedom organized by France and Greece.

Reporters Without Borders said that more than 280 journalists and bloggers have been imprisoned this year, including 32 in Eritrea, 30 in China and 27 in Iran and 14 in Syria. But five have been detained in Azerbaijan, which is the UN Security Council president for May.

Ban and press freedom groups have sought to stress the role of the media, and particularly the new social media, in covering the uprisings in Libya, Egypt and Syria over the past 18 months.

"Those new voices and new modes of communication have helped millions of people gain, for the first time, the chance at democracy and opportunities that had been denied to them for so long," Ban said.

The Freedom House rights group said the Middle East and North Africa experienced "dramatic if precarious gains" in press freedom last year after the uprisings. But it added that Bahrain and Syria launched "harsh media crackdowns" as part of government crackdowns on uprisings.

The group said that China, Russia and Iran have kept a tight grip on the media by detaining critics and shutting down media outlets.

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## Letters reveal anxious bin Laden, divided Al-Qaeda

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The United States released letters Thursday from Osama bin Laden's compound that reveal a divided Al-Qaeda and an anxious leader worried about his network's image among Muslims, even as he yearned to strike again at American targets.

A year after bin Laden was killed by US Navy SEALS at his Pakistani hideout, the White House released 17 documents from among a vast trove of files recovered at his home in Abbottabad.

The letters show bin Laden and other Al-Qaeda figures deeply concerned about civilian casualties in Islamic countries, frustrated with fellow extremists in Pakistan and in disagreement over the role of affiliates elsewhere.

Bin Laden's associates were so worried about how Muslims viewed the organization that one follower suggested changing Al-Qaeda's name to make a fresh start, according to one document.

Bin Laden expressed grave concern about his terror network losing the sympathy of Muslims and described operations killing Muslims as "mistakes," adding it was important that "no Muslims fall victim except when it is absolutely essential." "It would lead us to winning several battles while losing the war at the end," he wrote.

Bin Laden suggests targeting US interests in "non-Islamic" countries, except where American troops are deployed in Iraq or Afghanistan, to avoid more Muslim casualties.

He also calls for two groups to prepare to take out US President Barack Obama and senior military officer General David Petraeus, now the head of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Bin Laden argued that by killing Obama, the United States would be plunged into crisis because he believed Vice President Joe Biden was not ready for the job.

At the time the letter was written, Petraeus was chief of US Central Command, overseeing troops in both Iraq and Afghanistan. He took over as commander in the Afghanistan war in June 2010.

In another letter whose author is unclear, there is a discussion about changing Al-Qaeda's name to reconnect with Muslims around the world.

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## White House sidesteps Chen asylum issue

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The White House Thursday declined to say whether Washington would offer Chinese dissident Chen Guangcheng asylum, as senior officials tried to ease a diplomatic showdown over his fate in Beijing.

President Barack Obama's spokesman Jay Carney faced an inquisition on Chen at his daily briefing, but referred de-

tailed questions on the unfolding drama to US diplomats in Beijing accompanying Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

The president kept out of public exchanges on the issue, perhaps a sign of a desire to avoid escalating the row into a confrontation with China's political leaders, or a desire by officials to insulate him from domestic political fire.

Carney would not comment on questions about Chen "hypothetically" seeking political asylum, though stressed the dissident, who now says he has changed his mind and wants to come to the United States had not requested such status.

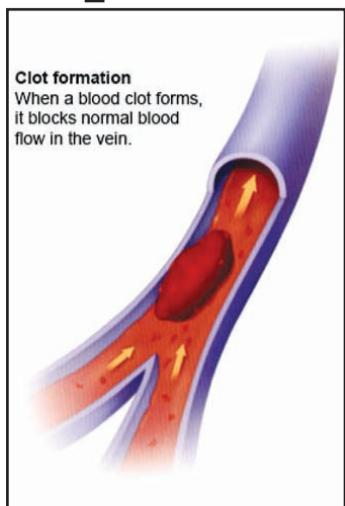
US officials have said Chen, who riled Chinese authorities by exposing forced abortions and sterilizations

under the government's "one-child" policy, left the embassy after Beijing pledged he and his family would be treated "humanely".

Chen has since said he felt under pressure to leave the embassy, fearing for the safety of his family, who suffered repeated abuses at the hands of local officials in their home town.

## Health & Living

# Blood thinner works as well as aspirin in heart patients



WASHINGTON (AFP) - Aspirin works as well as the blood thinner warfarin, or Coumadin, in most patients with heart failure when it comes to preventing death, stroke or brain hemorrhage, said a major international study.

The findings published in the New England Journal of Medicine came from a landmark clinical trial that lasted

10 years and tracked 2,305 patients in 11 countries.

The combined risk of death, stroke, and cerebral hemorrhage was 7.47 percent per year for patients taking warfarin, and 7.93 percent per year for those taking aspirin, a difference that researchers said was not statistically significant.

Patients taking the blood thinner had half the stroke risk of people taking aspirin, but warfarin patients had double the risk for major bleeding, and so those two factors cancelled each other out, researchers said.

There was some evidence among warfarin patients followed for four years or more that the blood thinner may have superior benefits in warding off death, stroke or brain hemorrhage but more analysis is needed, the study said.

"Since the overall risks and benefits are similar for aspirin and warfarin, the patient and his or her doctor are free to

choose the treatment that best meets their particular medical needs," said lead investigator Shunichi Homma of Columbia University Medical Center.

"However, given the convenience and low cost of aspirin, many may go this route."

Heart failure can hike the risk of blood clots that may cause stroke. Aspirin prevents the blood from clotting and warfarin, available by prescription, thins the blood.

"With at least six million Americans -- and many more around the world -- suffering from heart failure, the results of the WARCEF study will have a large public health impact," said Walter Koroshetz, deputy director of the National Institute for Neurological Disorders and Stroke.

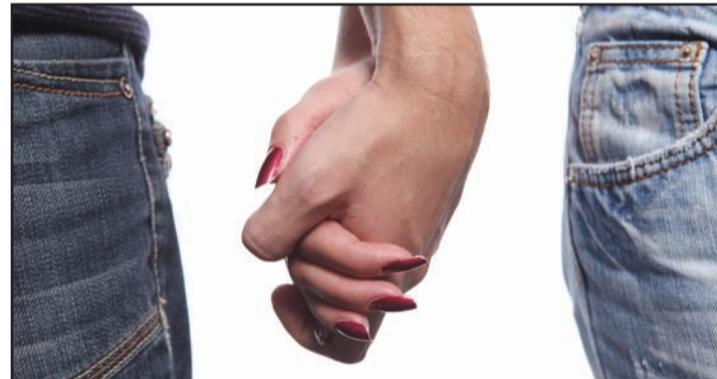
"The key decision will be whether to accept the increased risk of stroke with aspirin, or the increased risk of primarily gastrointestinal hemorrhage with warfarin," he said.

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## More US teens postponing sex: study



WASHINGTON (AFP) - More US teenagers are postponing sex than in 1995, and hormonal contraceptive use is up among those who are sexually active, said US health authorities on Thursday.

However, disparities in safe sex practices remain, with white teenagers more likely to regularly use contraception than African-Americans or Hispanics, said the report by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The data came from the National Survey of Family Growth collected for 1995, 2002, and the period of 2006-2010, described as a nationally representative survey.

Over the period 2006-2010, 57 percent of teenage girls aged 15-19 years had never had vaginal intercourse, an increase from 49 percent in 1995, said the CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly report.

"The proportion of female teens who never have had sex

is now comparable across racial/ethnic groups," it said.

About 60 percent of sexually experienced teens said they were currently using hormonal birth control such as the Pill, the intrauterine device (IUD) or injections, an increase from 47 percent in 1995.

Such contraceptive use was highest among whites (66 percent) and lowest among blacks (46 percent). Among sexually active Hispanic teenagers, 54 percent reported using a hormonal birth control method.

Condoms were deemed a moderately effective birth control method and were second in popularity among sexually active teenagers, having fallen steadily since 1995.

However, during 2006-2010 period, "only about half (49 percent) of female teens who used a condom for contraception reported consistent use in the past month," the CDC said.

About 20 percent of teens having sex reported using no

method of birth control at all, a level that has remained about the same since 1995.

Separate studies have shown that the US teen birth rate -- in 2010 it was 34 births per 1,000 females -- is in steep

decline, down 44 percent from 1990 to its lowest level in seven decades.

About 368,000 babies were born to US teenagers in 2010.

However, the CDC warned that the US teen birth rate re-

mains higher than in other developed countries, and urged communities to provide sex education and connect teenagers to reproductive health services.

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## Sci-Tech

### Perigee "Super Moon" On May 5-6



The full Moon has a reputation for trouble. It raises high tides, it makes dogs howl, it wakes you up in the middle of the night with beams of moonlight stealing through drapes. If a moonbeam wakes you up on the night of May 5th, 2012, you might want to get out of bed and take a look. This May's full Moon is a "super Moon," as much as 14% bigger and 30% brighter than other full Moons of 2012.

The scientific term for the phenomenon is "perigee moon." Full Moons vary in size because of the oval shape of the Moon's orbit. The Moon follows an elliptical path around Earth with one side ("perigee") about 50,000 km closer than the other ("apogee"). Full Moons that occur on the perigee side of the Moon's orbit seem extra big and bright.

Such is the case on May 5th at 11:34 pm Eastern Daylight Time when the Moon reaches perigee. Only one minute later, the Moon will line up with Earth and the sun to become brilliantly full. The timing is almost perfect.

Okay, the Moon is 14% bigger than usual, but can you really tell the difference? It's tricky. There are no rulers floating in the sky to measure lunar diameters. Hanging high overhead with no reference points to provide a sense of scale, one full Moon can seem much like any other.

The best time to look is when the Moon is near the horizon. For reasons not fully understood by astronomers or psychologists, low-hanging Moons look unnaturally large when they beam through trees, buildings and other foreground objects. On May 5th, this Moon illusion will amplify a full

Moon that's extra-big to begin with. The swollen orb rising in the east at sunset should seem super indeed.

Folklore holds that all kinds of wacky things happen under the light of a full Moon. Supposedly, hospital admissions increase, the crime rate ticks upward, and people behave strangely. The idea that the full Moon causes mental disorders was widespread in the Middle Ages. Even the word "lunacy," meaning "insanity," comes from the Latin word for "Moon."

The majority of modern studies, however, show no correlation between the phase of the Moon and the incidence of crime, sickness, or human behavior. The truth is, the Moon is less influential than folklore would have us believe.

It's true that a perigee full Moon brings with it extra-high "perigean tides," but according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration this is nothing to worry about. In most places, lunar gravity at perigee pulls tide waters only a few centimeters (an inch or so) higher than usual. Local geography can amplify the effect to about 15 centimeters (six inches)--not exactly a great flood.

Super perigee Moons are actually fairly common. The Moon becomes full within a few hours of its closest approach to Earth about once a year on average. The last such coincidence occurred on March 19th, 2011, producing a full Moon that was almost 400 km closer than this one. As usual, no trouble was reported--unless you count a midnight awakening as trouble.

If so, close the drapes on May 5th. Otherwise, enjoy the super-moonlight.

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**Omelet Station:**  
Omelets prepared to order with variety of fillings.

**Salad Station:**  
Caesar & condiments, Potatoes Egg Salad, Tuna Salad, Tricolor Pasta Salad, Chicken Salad.

**Gourmet Entrees:**  
Tenderloin with Mushroom sauce;  
Chicken Cordon Blue with white wine sauce;  
Grouper with Creole sauce;  
Fresh mixed vegetables, White Rice, Fried Plantain, Pan Bati.

**Dessert Station:**  
Assortment of Cakes, Pastries, Quesillo and Pan Boyo  
Beverage: Unlimited Champagne and Orange Mimosa, Juices, Coffee and Tea.

Children 6-12 years US\$ 14.50; Under 6 years eat free.  
Prices are inclusive service charge and BBO  
For reservation please call: 526-7714  
EARLY reservations are entitled to participate in a raffle to win a weekend stay with us.  
(NOTE: Last reservation date is May 6, 2012)



**The Mill**  
Resort & Suites

## Cool it on the altered images, US teen tells magazine

NEW YORK (AFP) - A high school student from Maine handed a 15,000-name petition to Seventeen on Wednesday, urging the popular magazine for teenage girls to ease back on the use of retouched photo spreads.

Julia Bluhm, 14, who launched the online petition, urged Seventeen, whose US edition sells two million copies a month, "to commit to printing one unaltered -- real -- photo spread per month."

"I want to see regular girls that look like me in a magazine that's supposed to be for me," wrote the aspiring ballet dancer, whose petition on change.org was supported by the SPARK Movement, a girls' advocacy group.

"To girls today, the word 'pretty' means skinny and blemish-free. Why is that, when so few girls actually fit into such a narrow category?

It's because the media tells us that 'pretty' girls are impossibly thin with perfect skin."

There was no immediate reaction from Seventeen's publisher Hearst, but editor-in-chief Ann Shoket announced via Twitter that she had "a deep convo" with Bluhm "about girls and the

media ... So proud of her!"

Seventeen is published in several countries worldwide. This month the US edition features teen actress Chloe Grace Moretz, a Justin Bieber "bonus section" and "the secret to looking hot in your bikini."



# COMICS

**PICKLES**

**MOMMA**

**CALVIN and HOBBES**

**CROSSWORD**

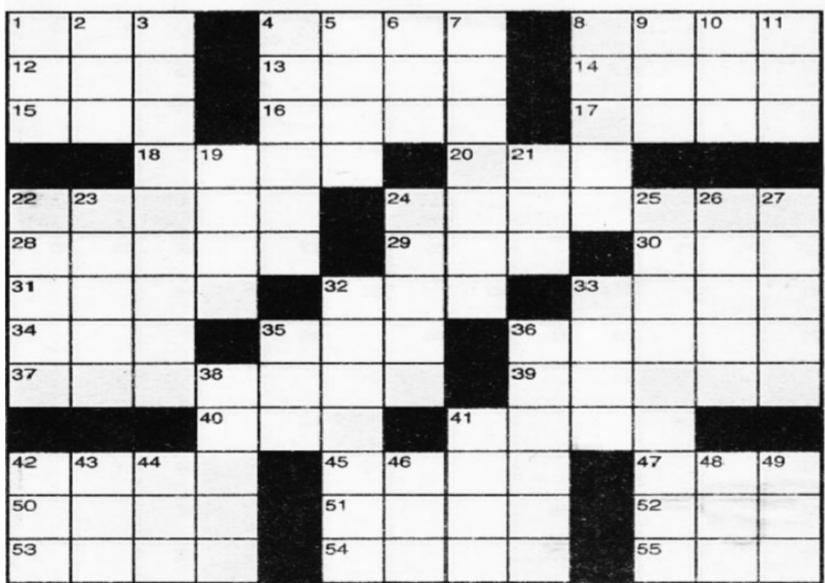
**CROSSWORD**

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**ACROSS**

1. Kitty's sound
4. Blocker and Rather
8. Trash bag brand
12. A Gardner
13. Pour forth
14. Actor Wallace
- 
15. Animation unit
16. Queue
17. Shoemakers' tools
18. Told fibs
20. — Tin Tin
22. Station
24. Pawnbrokers
28. Foolish
29. Long time
30. Actress

- Remick
31. Cooking amts.
32. Faux \_\_
33. Puffed
34. Actor's signal
35. Vogue
36. Bring up
37. Vainglorious behavior
39. Daisy Mae's hubby
40. Bother
41. Show off
42. Food court site
45. Irish Rose's beau
47. Like a \_\_ of


**4. Expunge**

5. Between
6. Author Anaïs
7. Panasonic products
8. — Central
9. Writer Wallace
10. Cause pain
11. Letters after a dentist's name
19. Electrified particles
21. Rural hotel
22. Moat's kin
23. Follow
24. Dominates when dancing
25. Composer Duke
26. Witherspoon of "Rendition"
27. Seamstress
32. Parcel
33. Spongelike cake
35. Evergreen tree
36. Infrequently
38. Greased
41. Nuthatch, e.g.
42. Throng
43. Dentists' gp.
44. Diamond woman
46. Bridge action
48. Have title to
49. Lately made

**DOWN**

1. Raincoat, for short
2. Adam's partner
3. Decorator's suggestion

**SOLUTION**

1	6	2	5	3	8	7	9	4
9	3	5	2	7	4	1	6	8
8	4	7	6	9	1	5	3	2
2	7	1	8	4	5	9	3	1
9	9	4	1	2	3	8	5	7
5	1	3	7	8	6	4	2	9
7	2	6	3	4	5	9	8	1
3	8	1	9	6	7	2	4	5

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9  
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.  
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

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# Sudoku

			1	9				2
7				3			5	
	5			8			6	
5	1	3						
	9						5	
						3	1	6
			7			1	3	
			2		4		8	7
		2		8	7			

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9  
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.  
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

## FINANCE

### Zuma: S.Africa, India trade to reach \$15 bn before 2014

JOHANNESBURG (AFP) - Trade between South Africa and India will reach the target of \$15 billion (11 billion euros) per year before a self-imposed 2014 deadline, South African President Jacob Zuma said yesterday. The two countries agreed to increase their commercial exchanges during Zuma's state visit to India in 2010.

But they are on track to reach the mark ahead of schedule, Zuma said during a return visit from Indian President Pratibha Patil.

"We set a target of 15 billion dollars of trade between South Africa and India, to be achieved by 2014. According to current trade statistics this

could be reached earlier than anticipated," he said.

"The figure by the end of 2011 was close to seven billion dollars. We are on the right path indeed."

Africa's largest economy grew 3.1 percent in 2011, but is dragged down by a 23.9-percent unemployment rate.

Nigeria, the continent's most populous nation and largest oil producer, was India's largest trading partner at \$10 billion in 2010.

"Let me remind you that you are in the right continent at the right time. The African continent is the new frontier of economic growth and development," said Zuma.

### Facebook pushes IPO ahead, value set above B \$70

NEW YORK (AFP) - Facebook yeswterday set a price range for its hotly anticipated public offering that would value the social network between \$70 billion and \$87.5 billion.

A regulatory filing calls for shares to be priced between \$28 and \$35, which would set a company value below some estimates of \$100 billion for the world's biggest social network.

At the midpoint of the price range, the sale of 337 million shares would generate \$10.6 billion, making Facebook's offering the largest IPO of a tech firm and one of the biggest on US soil. The net proceeds for Facebook at that price would be \$5.6 billion, excluding fees and commission, as well

money from the 157 million shares sold by holders of the previously issued stock, based on a filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Trading was expected to be launched May 18, according to news reports. On the private-company exchange SharesPost, Facebook shares had been estimated at more than \$44, news reports said.

Although the proposed pricing would put Facebook's value below some estimates, it still would make the social network the most valuable US Web company at the time of an IPO, topping Google's \$23 billion valuation in 2004.

It would also put Facebook just behind the market capitalization of Amazon.com and ahead of Hewlett-Packard Co.

Daily Exchange Rates				
Current as of: 05/03/2012	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	<b>1.77</b>	<b>1.78</b>	<b>1.80</b>
Dutch Antilles	ANG	<b>98.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.20</b>
Canada	CAD	<b>1.79</b>	<b>1.81</b>	<b>1.83</b>
Britiaian	GBP	<b>2.82</b>	<b>2.87</b>	<b>2.93</b>
Switzerland	CHF	<b>194.40</b>	<b>195.12</b>	<b>195.92</b>
Netherlands	EUR	<b>231.61</b>	<b>233.73</b>	<b>236.08</b>
Sweden	SEK	<b>25.36</b>	<b>26.08</b>	<b>26.88</b>
Denmark	DKK	<b>30.46</b>	<b>31.18</b>	<b>31.98</b>
Norway	NOK	<b>30.03</b>	<b>30.75</b>	<b>31.55</b>
Japan (per 100)	JPY	<b>219.56</b>	<b>221.56</b>	<b>223.79</b>
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#### CONTACT DETAILS

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(297)737-3743  
Email:aolaruba@gmail.com



### Brazil's BTG Pactual launches big Africa investment fund

RIO DE JANEIRO (AFP) - Brazil's leading investment bank Banco BTG Pactual yesterday launched a \$1 billion Africa investment fund, the biggest in the world, with capital collected in the country.

"It will be the biggest fund in Brazil with a special focus on the African continent," BTG Pactual president Andre Esteves said at a seminar here on investment opportunities in Africa sponsored by the Brazilian Development Bank (BNDES).

"The creation of this 'private equity' is a demonstration of the enormous confidence and affinity Brazil has with this region of the world."

The announcement drew cheers from seminar partici-

pants -- including Brazilian ministers and corporate leaders, African ambassadors and former Brazilian president Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva.

"This announcement is extremely important," said Carlos Lopes, the executive director of the UN Institute for Training and Research who has been named as the next executive secretary of the UN Economic Commission for Africa.

"That the biggest investment fund for Africa is created by Brazil is beneficial, courageous and shows a recognition of risk," added Lopes, of Guinea-Bissau.

He noted that the biggest Africa development fund so far was Helios with \$900 million.

Esteves highlighted Africa's good macro-economic fundamentals, including a public debt reduced from 90 percent to 59 percent of GDP and inflation averaging eight percent.

#### YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer





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## Winners announced of the annual AHATA Environmental Committee Recycled Art Expo and Competition



Contest winners with judges, organizer and Minister of Education



first prize winner group



second prize winner professional artist

A record year of entries produced quite a few winners for

this year's annual Recycled Art Expo & Competition,

conducted by the Environmental Committee of the Aruba Hotel and Tourism Association, AHATA, led by Vanessa Rasmussen.

Minister of Justice and Education Arthur Dowers was on hand to present the certificates for first, second and third place winners in seven categories. They were:

*Pre-Schools:*

- 1st: Washington Timon Prins
- 2nd: Cayana
- 3rd: Jacinta

*Elementary Schools grades 1-3*

- 1st: St Anna/class 1B
- 2nd: St. Anna/Jean-Rick Tromp
- 3rd: Colegio San Jose/2A

*Elementary Schools grades 4-6*

- 1st: Princess Amalia/Yarimar Mendez class 5A
- 2nd: Conrado Coronel/5C
- 3rd: Paulus/Nashanti Krind

*Secondary Schools:*

- 1st: EPI S & S/Rocalia Lampe
- 2nd: La Salle/Sandelyne Peasch & Kathy Orazco
- 3rd: EPI HORECA/Clement Patrocci

*Individual Artist-Amateur:*

1st: Antonia Santa Cruz Cardone

2nd: Magaly Gonzales

3rd: Sharisma Tromp-Farro

*Individual Artist-Professional:*

1st: Pedro Oduber

2nd: Lucia Maduro

3rd: Miriam De L'isle

*Group/Business:*

- 1st: Cindy and Sidney Regales
- 2nd: Progresa Bijles and Huiswerkbegeleiding
- 3rd: Playa Linda/Pedro Orgando

Winners received a prizes such as dinners for two, weekend stays at resorts, boat trips, bus tours and gift certificates to various shops donated by AHATA members and associate members. This year's competition and expo attracted artists from Venezuela and Curacao, demonstrating creativity and practically in reusing waste materials and transforming them into something that saves the environment and soothes the soul.

by Rosalie Klein



3rd prize winner professional artist Miriam De L'isle



**15 MINUTE  
ENGLISH  
LIFESTYLE &  
NEWS SHOW**



ON 15 AT A LOCAL  
NBC LICENSEE  
WEEKNIGHTS 7:15 PM

## *Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals*



Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their "home away from home" in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and families, famed hotelier Ed Malone has been placed in charge of the rental program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters, caterers, airline pick-up

and drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious, offering privacy for parents or a few couples.



Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the island life. All homes come with cable TV,



high-speed fiber-optic Internet connection, individual washer/dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Cribs, high chairs and hair dryers are available for a modest fee. Concierge services to arrange

rental cars, spa appointments, activities and restaurant reservations are all part of the package.

Check-in for your holiday escape is conducted in the comfort of your vacation home, not while waiting online at check-in desk. In every way, Gold Coast seeks to pamper their guests while providing them with the feeling of being in a cozy community, not the normally bustling resort, particularly experienced during the major holidays. If you wish an optimal vacation experience with great savings, visit their website: [www.goldcoastaruba.com](http://www.goldcoastaruba.com) to get acquainted with the community and the layout, details and availability of accommodations, or call 586-2200 to talk personally to a Gold Coast representative.

## **Adorable and affordable; 5 Burgers Aruba offers an island twist to the great American Burger**

Expatriates from Boston, Massachusetts, residing on Aruba, Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on paradise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. Some may be quite well acquainted with a nationally known U.S franchise bearing the name "5", and patrons can expect the same great quality between the buns, but an expanded menu and Rosie and Aaron's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu.



Rosie and Aaron love their Burger too



Gouda Burger 2

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," comments Aaron; and upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course, the main item on the menu is burgers—the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy, made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

Prices vary only slightly between regular and small (basically 2 patties or 1) with specialty items such as Gouda Burger, Farmer's Burger, Man Burger (almost 12 ounces of choice beef), and a Western Burger with crispy onion rings and BBQ sauce. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jalapeño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato... whatever the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.

5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of fries, which are made from hand-cut fresh

Idaho potatoes, is enough to be shared by two. He was very amused to watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!" Try them the English way—with vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

If you are a fan of crispy friend onion rings, as we are at THE MORNING NEWS, you cannot leave there without trying their secret recipe batter-dipped gourmet rings, made from fresh, not frozen onions. Unquestionably, the best we have had anywhere, and for those that like a little spice, the fried jalapeños are a real treat. Aaron and Rosie have expanded their menu to accommodate certain tastes and dietary needs; they offer a tasty grilled chicken sandwich as well.

5 Burgers Aruba is open for lunch & dinner – daily hours are Noon to 10-ish; delivery is available to both the high-rise and low-rise hotel and beach district for orders over \$50. Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904. However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their authentic, heartfelt hospitality; it is not unusual for the owners when things are not too busy, to sit and chat while sharing their knowledge of the island. Totally yummy and fun plus a great deal for a quality burger, they are definitely worth a visit

## SPORTS

# History of Aruban athletes in Olympic Games (Part I)



Today we want to put the spotlight on some of Aruba's athletes who excelled in the past at the Olympic Games. We go way back to the Helsinki Olympic Games in 1952. Regrettably, the majority of the athletes of yester years have all passed away. Today we are happy to still have with us Leo Rodriguez. Most of the athletes of the past had accomplished great feats in one or more sports. They had all been highly revered here at home for their tremendous accomplishments in the field of athletics.

We must mention, among others, Jorge "Gochi" Brion, Leo Rodriguez, Raymundo "Mundo" Kemp, Juan Briesen, Adriaan "Jani" Brokke, Hernandez y Carlos "Cai" Helder. These giants excelled espe-

cially in the sport of football.

Despite the fact that many years have past, we still remember clearly what these men did in name of Aruba. We don't have the history of all our athletes, but we did succeed in compiling many of them with photos and illustrations of the Olympic Games of Helsinki. Six Aruban athletes participated in those Games in Helsinki as part of the Antillean football selection.

We succeeded in collecting information on Jorge "Gochi" Brion, and on Leo Rodriguez who both played in the 1952 Helsinki Games.

Jorge Gerardo Brion, better known as Gochi, was a great athlete of the Socorro Barrio. He played for the Aruba Jrs football team. Football was his favorite sport. He also played softball for the Extra Aruba Sluggers team. Gochi was considered a legend who excelled in the area of sports. In 1952, Gochi Brion, together with 6 other Arubans were part of the Antillean selection that represented the Antilles in the Helsinki Olympic Games. Together with Janny Brokke and Juan Briesen, Gochi played against Turkey in which the Antillean team lost 2 to 1. Following the Olympic games,

we remember Gochi saying... "I believe that this Olympics was the best experience and achievement of my football career, because when I compare football now with what it was before, I'd rather not say anymore."

Leo Rodriguez played football, basketball, ping pong and athletics in Aruba. All his sports activities was for the Aruba Jrs. Team. In football and basketball, Rodriguez was an outstanding player who was also part of the Aruba Jrs. Organization. He excelled in various international encounters. Leo Rodriguez also commented on his recollections, saying,... "Back then Aruba Jrs. had true legends playing sports on Aruba, but it hurts me to see how sports has deteriorated, and the question I ask is who is to blame for this?" This is the first part of the history of Aruban athletes who represented Aruba in historical Olympic Games.

### MLB Standings

#### American League

East	W	L	Pct	GB
TAMPA	17	8	.680	--
BALTIMORE	16	9	.640	1.0
TORONTO	14	11	.560	3.0
YANKEES	13	11	.542	3.5
BOSTON	11	13	.458	5.5

#### Central

CLEVELAND	12	10	.545	--
CHICAGO	12	12	.500	1.0
DETROIT	12	12	.500	1.0
KANSAS	7	16	.304	5.5
MINNESOTA	6	18	.250	7.0

#### West

TEXAS	17	8	.680	--
OAKLAND	13	13	.500	4.5
SEATTLE	11	15	.423	6.5
LA ANGELES	10	15	.400	7.0

#### National League

East	W	L	Pct	GB
WASHINGTON	15	9	.625	--
ATLANTA	15	11	.577	1.0
NY METS	13	12	.520	2.5
PHILADELPHIA	13	13	.500	3.0
MIAMI	10	14	.417	5.0

#### Central

ST. LOUIS	16	8	.667	--
CINCINNATI	11	12	.478	4.5
MILWAUKEE	11	14	.440	5.5
HOUSTON	11	14	.440	5.5
PITTSBURG	10	14	.417	6.0
CHICAGO	9	15	.375	7.0

#### West

LA DODGERS	17	8	.680	--
ARIZONA	13	12	.520	4.0
COLORADO	12	12	.500	4.5
SAN FRANCISCO	12	12	.500	4.5
SAN DIEGO	9	17	.346	8.5

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## Ukraine denounces 'destructive' Euro boycott

KIEV (AFP) - Ukraine on Thursday denounced a threatened EU boycott of its Euro 2012 football matches as a "destructive" attempt to politicise sport that will hurt mutual understanding and ties.

The furious statement came moments after the European Union confirmed that all its commissioners would skip next month's football events in the country to protest the treatment of its jailed ex-premier Yulia Tymoshenko.

Russia's president-elect Vladimir Putin had earlier in the day attempted to defuse the escalating crisis by offering to receive Tymoshenko for treatment should the Ukrainian authorities agree to let her travel to Russia.

The authorities dug in for diplomatic warfare by accusing EU leaders of ignoring the interests of not only Ukrainians but all Eastern Europeans with their boycott call.

The shock announcement and earlier boycott of a Yalta conference by the German president set in motion a mass European boycott campaign that is now wreaking havoc on the biggest event in Ukraine's post-Soviet history.

At least seven EU heads of state are further shunning a summit to be hosted by President Viktor Yanukovych in Yalta this month.

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Printed by  
**Diaro N.V.**

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## American Micheel on top at Spanish Open

SEVILLE, (AFP) - Former USPGA Championship winner Shaun Micheel shot a five-under-par 67 for a one-shot lead after the opening round of the Spanish Open here on Thursday.

The 43-year-old American, who triumphed at Oak Hill in 2003 to become a Major champion, took advantage of improved afternoon weather conditions to hit eight birdies and three bogeys.

It left him one shot ahead of home favourite Jorge Campillo and the English pair of Robert Rock and Danny Willett, with their compatriot Matthew Baldwin alone in fifth on three under.

Italian Ryder Cup star Francesco Molinari was the best of the morning starters and had to contend with strong winds and heavy rain, as he signed for a two-under-par 70, which was matched in the afternoon by his compatriot Matteo Manassero.

Micheel turned in 33, struck his approach at the 13th to three feet, holed a five-footer at the 15th and two-putted the long 16th from 25 feet to reach six under par.

But he came unstuck at the last, finding sand from the tee, hitting his approach into an

other bunker and two-putting for bogey.

"I didn't expect this," said Micheel. "Yesterday in the pro-am I didn't make any birdies, and it wasn't for lack of effort, I can assure you."

"I had a terrific start with four birdies on my first six holes. I think the key was I kept the ball in play, made a couple of nice putts, and I made all my short putts."

"My iron play was good and I just managed myself well and gave myself a lot of opportunities."

"Outside my bogey in the last, I'm extremely pleased. I made eight birdies. It felt great, it really did. I'm ready to play tomorrow in the same conditions. I do enjoy playing in difficult conditions."

Englishman Rock, conqueror of Tiger Woods and world top three Luke Donald, Rory McIlroy and Lee Westwood in Abu Dhabi in January, eagled the 13th and 16th on his return to action after more than a month off.

That break came after his failed attempt to climb into the world ranking's top 50 in time for the Masters, but it is the leading 60 who qualify for next month's US Open and he is currently 60th.



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## Cause of Dale Oen death still unknown

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Authorities are still probing the cause of world champion swimmer Alexander Dale Oen's death after an initial autopsy was inconclusive, authorities in Flagstaff, Arizona said.

"An autopsy on Alexander Dale Oen was performed by the Coconino County Medical Examiner's Office on Tuesday. Following the initial examination, the cause of death is pending," Barbara Worgess, the chief health officer for the county, said in a statement. "Additional tests are being conducted."

The medical examiner's office said the initial autopsy "revealed no anatomic cause of death and no trauma associated with the death".

Norway's Dale Oen, 26, died in Flagstaff, where he was training at altitude with teammates in preparation for the London Olympics.

The reigning 100m breast-

stroke world champion was found collapsed in a shower at a swimming pool by teammates on Monday, the Norwegian swimming federation said.

The team doctor tried to resuscitate him, as did paramedics who arrived within minutes to take him to hospital.

"We routinely run additional tests to help determine cause of death and we are consulting with a cardiovascular pathologist," Worgess said of the ongoing investigation.

"Final test results may take eight weeks or longer to be completed."

Dale Oen became Norway's first swimmer to win an Olympic medal when he won the silver in the 100m breaststroke in the 2008 Games in Beijing.

He had been tipped as one of Norway's best chances of a medal at the London Olympics in July.

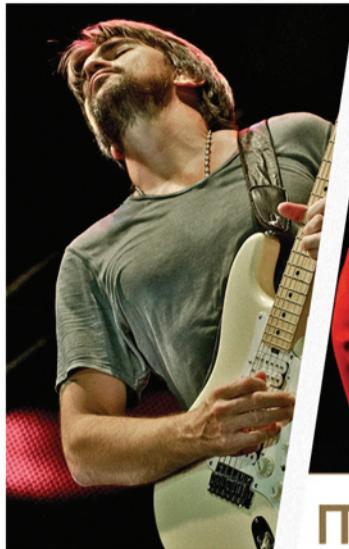


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## Boxing: Mayweather Vs. Cotto on Saturday



Floyd Mayweather Jr. and Miguel Cotto

LAS VEGAS - Floyd Mayweather, 35, is ready to step into the ring on Saturday and try to add one more win to his undefeated with 42-0 (26Ko's) record when he takes on Miguel Cotto.

At the press conference Wednesday afternoon at the Hollywood Theater inside the MGM Grand, Mayweather praised his opponent calling him a "true warrior, a tough champion", and said, "to go

into the Hall Of Fame you have to face the best opponents," which, for Cotto, cannot be denied. He has faced Manny Pacquiao, Antonio Margarito twice, Shane Mosley and Zab Judah.

Even if his not legendary Miguel Cotto 37-2 (30Ko's) will have plenty of fans in attendance for his clash against Mayweather. The Puerto Rican fighter is one of the top fighters from his country.

The two men have been mooted as possible opponents since both were campaigning as super lightweights, but Cotto felt his chances would have been significantly diminished had they met earlier in his career.

Cotto, who is defending his junior middleweight title, will earn \$8 million, according to his Nevada contract. However, he will also earn much more because of his upside on the pay-per-view profits.

Mayweather will earn much more because of his hefty participation in the pay-per-view profits.

Speaking ahead of this Saturday's mega-fight with 154-pound ruler Miguel Cotto, Mayweather said he plans on retiring at the age of 37.

Boxing fans, meanwhile, are still hoping Mayweather will eventually fight Manny Pacquiao. When asked Tuesday if his career is complete without fighting Pacquiao, Mayweather ignored the question and plugged this weekend's fight against Cotto.



MADRID-Spain : Real Madrid's players arrive on an open bus at Cibeles square in Madrid on May 3, 2012, to celebrate winning the Spanish league title for the first time since 2008. Real Madrid's 3-0 away win over Athletic Bilbao sealed the league, putting them seven points clear of last year's winners and arch rivals Barcelona with just two games to go and delivering the team's 32nd league crown.

AFP PHOTO

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